

winning ways

SUMMER 2011, VOLUME 20, ISSUE 3

WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS - 20th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

THE UNLIKELY EMPEROR

PART II sherry briggs

SUMMER SEMINAR
AND COLORADO
SPRINGS

dave heinrich

NETWORKING
VITALLY
IMPORTANT
TO WIN

beth deisher

SEE PAST WINNING WAYS ARTICLES



President's Corner

By Lorraine S. Weiss, WIN President

Many of you will be attending the Summer convention of the American Numismatic Association this August in Chicago. For some of you, this is an annual "pilgrimage", for others, it will be your first ANA convention. This is a wonderful opportunity for potential, beginning, and advanced collectors to get acquainted with the wide variety of exciting topics that comprise the hobby. Trying to "take it all in" can be overwhelming. In addition to WIN events, there will be seminars, lectures, meetings, exhibits, presentations, and last, but certainly not

least, the bourse floor with literally hundreds of dealers, the "Mint Mile", demonstrations by the US Mint & the BEP, lots of activities for the YN (young numismatists), and much more. Take a deep breath and pace yourself. Savor every minute.

WIN events will include our 20th. Anniversary General Meeting. It will be a "salute" honoring our Founding Members and our Charter Members. It will be a look back and a look forward. Due to its early hour, we will have breakfast refreshments for attendees. All are welcome. Members are encouraged to bring guests. WIN will also have an Infoposium. During a period of approximately two hours, various speakers will talk for about 15-20 minutes each on their areas of expertise: what makes it exciting and

interesting to collect. Again, all are welcome.

For seasoned veterans of the hobby, please think of this as an opportunity to introduce a newcomer to the numismatic community, to encourage a beginner to broaden their horizons, and perhaps, to fan the spark of interest in a budding young collector. Therein lies our future: the future of the hobby and the future of WIN.

Lorraine

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The 20th Anniversary WIN General Meeting

will be held on
Friday, August 19th, 7-9 am

**2011 ANA Summer Convention
in Chicago, Illinois**

we will honor our
Charter and Founding Members

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The 2011 WIN Infoposium of Speakers
will be held on
Friday, August 19th, 2-4 pm

2011 ANA Summer Convention in Chicago

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Letters-to-the-Editor are welcome from both members and non-members and must include your name, address and phone number. Letters will be published in *Winning Ways* as space and publication deadlines permit and are subject to editorial discretion. Whenever a letter addresses a specific problem that the Board can assist in resolving, it will be forwarded to the appropriate people.

Feature Articles

Articles, photos and features pertaining to the numismatic industry are welcome and are subject to editorial discretion and editing.

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Deadlines

All content or advertisements submitted for use in *Winning Ways* should be received by the following deadlines for each issue:

Spring Issue.....	February 28th
Summer Issue.....	June 30th
Winter Issue.....	November 30th

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The Unlikely Emperor, Part II

By Sherry Briggs

In 39 BCE, the much needed conference between Pompey and Antony finally took place at Misenum on one of Pompey's ships. The agreement included major land grants to Pompey, in return for which Pompey was to cease from raiding the coast and lift the blockade on Rome. One result of the proscriptions had been that a wave of refugees had fled Rome to join Pompey. They were now to be allowed to return to Rome and have their property returned to them. The one exception, of course, was anyone who had participated in the murder of Caesar.

Antony now sent Ventidius to deal with the Parthians, who had by now overrun Syria, Palestine, and most of Asia Minor. Antony also told Octavian that Salvidienus, the man who had seemed so helpful in blockading Perusia, had made overtures to him at the Siege of Brundisium. Octavian immediately called him back from Gaul, and arranged for the Senate to convict him of treason. For the next three years, Antony was for the most part in Athens with Octavia, while the generals Ventidius and Sosius succeeded in chasing the Parthians out of Asia Minor and Syria.

Things concerning Sextus Pompey, however, were not so successful. The peace they had made with him quickly became unstuck. Sextus was not satisfied with the terms he had been given, and soon went back to his blockade of Italy. In October Octavian decided to rid himself of a marriage that had failed in its main objective and divorced Scribonia. He had an

additional reason for doing so, for he had fallen in love with the beautiful Livia, pregnant by her husband Tiberius Claudius Nero. Nero realized that this was a chance for him to advance himself, and he himself betrothed Livia to Octavian. Uncharacteristically impatient, Octavian arranged for the college of Pontifices to allow her to marry him while still pregnant with Nero's child, and married her in the most binding of ceremonies, which required that he remain faithful to her. It is a tribute to the regard in which he held her that he was willing to give up the valuable political tool of marriage that he had not, up to that time, hesitated to use.

38-36 BCE:

The next three years were mostly taken up with the war against Pompey Sextus. In 38 BCE the war against Sextus begun, but went badly. Neither Lepidus nor Antony took part and Octavian's generalship, as usual, was not up to the task.



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Octavian, whose fleet had been destroyed, realized that only a herculean effort would suffice to rid Rome of this menace. In 37 BCE Agrippa, who was now Consul, was put in charge of constructing a powerful fleet and training the slaves who were to row the ships. He constructed a large inland harbor by connecting Lake Avernus with the Lucrine Lake, and the Lucrine Lake with the sea. This was located on the coast of Italy on the lower "shin" of the boot of Italy, at a point not far north of Sicily.

It was at this point that Octavian again called upon Antony for aid. At this point Antony, who had been in Athens with Octavia, was planning his campaign against Parthia. Using this as an excuse, he sent Octavia back to Rome before setting out for Tarentum, the town on the "instep" of the Italian coast Italy where he was to confer with Octavian. Antony brought with him 120 warships, and the powers of the Triumvirate, which had been allowed to lapse, were extended to the end of 33 BCE. Now all three Triumvirs were involved to some extent in the war.

In 36 BCE Octavian, Agrippa and Lepidus launched a tremendous triple attack on Sicily. Octavian had his usual luck, but Agrippa and Lepidus prevailed. Pompey was driven off, with the remnants of his fleet, to the east, where he soon met his end at the hands of Antony's generals. Lepidus once again revealed his unreliable nature and tried to take Sicily for himself. Yet again

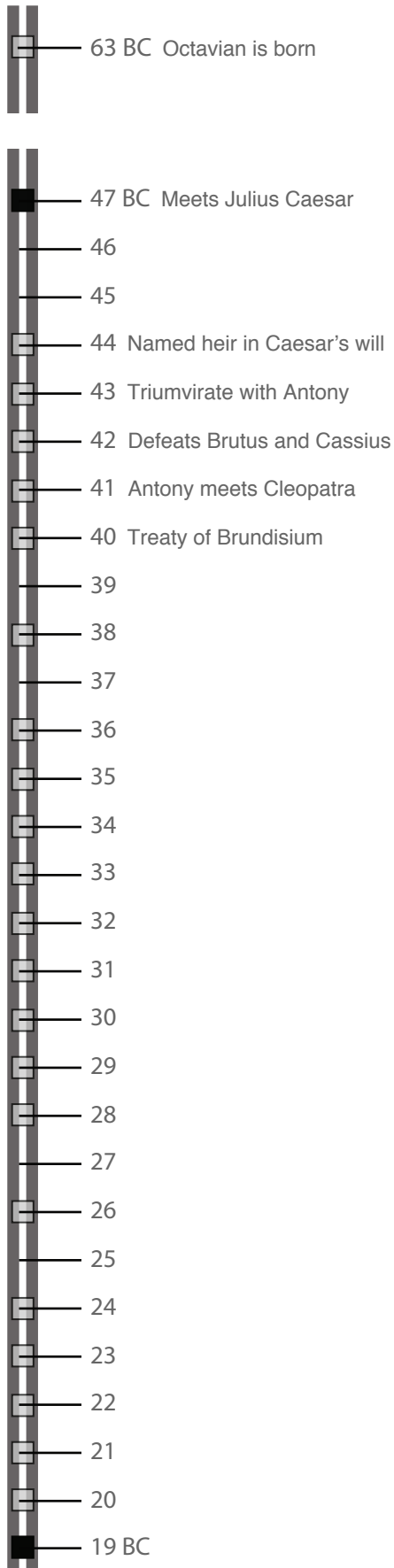


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the soldiers took matters into their own hands: Lepidus' troops mutinied and Octavian, taking charge, deposed him. Showing a newly discovered mercy Octavian did not have him killed, but Lepidus was to live out the rest of his life at home, under guard.

Octavian settled many of his troops, who were long overdue for retirement, and returned to Rome, where a rejoicing Senate extended to him a number of honors. The most significant of these was being granted

Timeline of Octavian



the tribunician privilege that his person was now considered sacrosanct, that is, immune from attack. He would also have been given the office of Pontifex Maximus, but in a further gesture of respect for the flawed Lepidus, Octavian insisted that he remain Pontifex Maximus, and did not himself accept that title until after Lepidus' death some years later. For his part, Octavian promised to restore the proper function of the magistrates, and also to restore the republic at such time as the crisis was over. Octavian was now twenty nine, and looked quite a lot more likely to be able to carry out these promises in the future. Not surprisingly, another series of coins was produced, depicting the monuments commemorating his victory over Pompey. (Figure 15) He also issued a coin depicting himself on the obverse and a temple to his father, the deified Caesar, on the reverse. Rather surprisingly, he is bearded, although that was not the custom of the time. (Figure 16)

34-35 BCE

In 35 and 34, Octavian continued to build on his popularity by actually managing to conduct successful campaigns in the hitherto untamed area of Illyricum. The result of this is that he was able to create a safe overland route to the east. Agrippa helped considerably at home. Although he had been Consul in 37, in 34 Agrippa took the low office of aedile and carried out a thorough refurbishment of the aqueduct system, which had fallen into noticeable disrepair.

Antony, meanwhile, was embarking on a course that would lead ultimately to his destruction. As we have seen, he had spent most of 39-37 BCE in Athens with Octavia. Having sent Octavia to Rome and participated in Pompey's defeat, he then went at once to Syria and asked Cleopatra to join him. Following his usual course he appointed a number of new men to rule in East. What was less usual was that he also

made a vast land donation to Cleopatra and her heirs, Caesarion plus Antony's own children.

In the spring of 36 BCE Antony launched his Parthian campaign. To say that it was not a success would be putting it mildly. The siege on Phraaspa, the capitol of Media, failed. This attempt delayed his retreat until winter. The King of Armenia deserted him, and Antony lost a quarter of his men.

In 35 BCE Antony asked Cleopatra for aid, but when Octavia arrived in Greece that spring with clothing, pack animals and 10,000 crack troops for him; he did not even see her, but refused in a letter, sending her back to Rome. He also acknowledged some form of marriage he had gone through with Cleopatra, with him playing Dionysus to her Isis. In addition, his acknowledgement of Caesarion as the son of Caesar invalidated to some extent Octavian's claims in that regard. He also produced coins showing himself on one side and Cleopatra on the other! Clearly, Antony was no longer any sort of partner of Octavian, and now the prospect of war between them loomed. Naturally, coins were issued. One of the most dramatic, minted by Antony, shows him on one side and Cleopatra on the other! (Figure 17) These coins form a valuable record of her actual appearance. She was actually not the great beauty that have since become the tradition in art and cinema; her beauty, which is undeniable, was not physical. She had a beautiful mind.

In 34 BCE Antony took Armenia, and celebrated a lavish triumph with Cleopatra in Alexandria. Cleopatra and her son by Caesar called Caesarion, 13, were proclaimed Queen & King of Kings, and given Egypt and Cyprus. There were also even more large land grants to her other children by Antony. Octavian, along with all of Italy, was outraged. They had not liked Cleopatra when Caesar introduced her to

them, and in fact this threatening queen was one of the reasons for the assassination of Caesar. Romans would never suffer a king or queen, and now the threat was renewed.

The opening salvoes of the war consisted of propaganda, and this was a war that Octavian was well set up to win. The Romans were predisposed to see Antony as the helpless slave of the sinister Cleopatra. He also had the incomparable Virgil, who wrote a stirring description of the upright Octavian confronting Antony and his Egyptian wife, along with "All kinds of monstrous gods and the barking Anubis turn(ing) their weapons against Neptune and Venus and Minerva."

In some senses, Octavian was in a somewhat weak position at this time, for he certainly had no plans to renew his triumviral powers, as that would necessitate renewing Antony's, nor could he become Consul, for to do so would override the previous arrangements, which would provoke a storm of protest. This last was particularly awkward, as those Consuls were Domitius Ahenobarbus and Gaius Sosius, both friends of Antony.

33-32 BCE

In 33 BCE Octavian, Consul for the second time, arranged for a "spontaneous" Loyalty Oath city by city throughout Italy, and then in the Provinces of Gaul, Spain, Sicily, Sardinia and Africa. Interestingly enough, this was not an oath of loyalty to the state, but to him and his descendants personally.

January 1 did not look like a good start to the year for Octavian. The Consuls summoned the Senate, and Sosius spoke strongly against Octavian. Octavian did not attend, but a tribune vetoed the motion Sosius proposed against Octavian. Now Octavian demanded that the Senate make public the latest letters from Antony, in which he described the successful Armenian

war, but also the Donations to Cleopatra and children. Naturally, the Consuls refused this. Using the powers imparted by the Oath, Octavian now summoned the Senate. When they had met, Octavian came in with a large armed escort and sat himself down right between the two pro-Antony Consuls. When he spoke on his own behalf, nobody dared utter a word. The Consuls and several Senators decided to get out of town, and went to join Antony.

This gave Octavian the opportunity of appointing a pair of Consuls more to his liking. When he got Antony's formal notice of his divorce of Antonia, he went to the Vestal Virgins, who had a copy of Antony's will, and demanded to see it. Loyal to their responsibilities, they refused, but somehow he managed to take it. That did the trick. When the Roman Senate and people heard for themselves of Antony confirming Caesarion as Caesar's son, still more extravagant legacies to Cleopatra and the children, and the request by Antony that even should he die in Rome that he be buried by Cleopatra at Alexandria, the fat was truly in the fire. Both sides now prepared for war.

Coins formed a crucial part of the propaganda war between the two men. Antony, as we have seen, took the part of Dionysus, which fit in well with his character. He also paired himself with Fortuna. Octavian, as a fitting reflection of his cool and calculating character, paired himself with, among others, Mercury, to indicate prosperity, and Jupiter, to indicate his magisterial power. (Figures 18, 19, 20)

31 BCE

In 31 Octavian became Consul for the third time, and was now backed by most of the Senate. Neither Octavian nor Antony was willing to have any of the fighting occur in Italy, so they wound up in Ephesus, a part of Greece across the Adriatic from Italy. Antony had a town in the extreme south

named Methone. Agrippa immediately seized this, which blocked off one of Antony's options. Octavian took and fortified the promontory to the north, while Antony settled down near Actium, and fortified the promontory to the south.

Unfortunately for Antony, Octavian held the high ground. Antony and his troops were in a marshy area, afflicted by malaria bearing mosquitoes, and the sea route was also effectively closed to him. There was some fighting, but Octavian for the most part



played a waiting game, while Antony's men were debilitated by lack of food and malaria. Agrippa, meanwhile, captured two more ports, completing the buttoning up of any sea routes Antony might have used. In his desperation to get supplies Antony used even prominent citizens of the towns and cities around him as porters, which cannot

have helped win over the hearts and minds of the locals! As conditions got worse, a number of high ranking supporters, both provincial kings and important Romans, left him, taking their armies with them.

The Battle of Actium, when it did occur, was a desperate attempt on the part of Antony and Cleopatra to break out of the trap. As has been told innumerable times, this did not succeed, and all that they managed to do was escape themselves, along with a very few ships. now their only-very faint- hope was to hold on to Egypt itself.

Octavian now found himself newly in possession of 300 large warships. He now founded Nicopolis, which means City of Victory, on the site of his camp. He then progressed throughout the region, handing out advancement and penalties to the various local rulers as he felt they deserved. Nicopolis endured for more than a millenium, but during the middle ages it was destroyed by the Ottoman Turks. It was

A number of coins resulted from these events. One of the most common is the denarius minted by Antony to pay his legions in 32-31 BCE. There are still some in pristine or near pristine condition, but most are heavily worn, as the silver in them was slightly base so that instead of being melted down for new coins they just continued to circulate. This bears witness to the fact that in this war Antony's resources were stretched to the limit. (Figure 21) Octavian produced a number of coins, all commemorating his victory over Antony. He cast this in the light of a victory over Africa, as is shown most clearly in his Africa Capta issue (Figure 22) He kept up a steady drumbeat of victory as can be seen in a series featuring images of victory. (Figures 23,24,25,26) He also issued a coin bearing an image of a statue of himself atop a column adorned with several ships' rostra. (Figure 27)

30 BCE

Octavian, now aged 33, went to Athens and was initiated in the mysteries of Eleusis.

Lepidus, son of the Triumvir of the same name, attempted a conspiracy which was immediately suppressed. The soldiers who had been dismissed after Actium were not dispersing, but clamoring for their back pay. True to form, Octavian made the risky winter crossing to Italy and settled some soldiers while paying others. He then went back to Egypt and attempted to capture Cleopatra. He met instead with a double suicide. He had wanted that of Antonius, but was disappointed that Cleopatra was not available to march in his Triumph and then be strangled. As for Cleopatra's children, he had Caesarian and Antony's oldest son killed, but spared the others to be raised by his long-suffering sister, Octavia. He also annexed Egypt as a Roman Province. Any remaining claims of the soldiers he now settled, being finally in full possession of Egypt's treasure.

29 BCE

This year saw his 5th Consulship. Many honors were voted to him, including the Tribunician right of auxilium throughout the



22



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23



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supplanted by the town of Preveza, about three miles to the south. In his Res Gestae, 24, Octavian mentions the striking fact that when he had defeated Antony, he took 80 statues of himself, spread throughout Rome and made of silver, and melted them down to coin money to pay for gold given in thanks at the temple of Apollo.

What this actually involved I cannot say, as they were effectively kept as, well, mysteries. Now Octavian embarked on a series of continuous Consulships. In this same year he began his fourth consulship, with Licinius Crassus as colleague, and dealt effectively with a number of issues arising from the eventful years that had recently passed.

Empire. This right allowed him to give aid and extend protection to any individual(s) of his own choosing. The temple of Janus was closed, signifying peace throughout the Roman territory. There were some minor conflicts still in progress in a few remote provinces, but the end of the civil war was considered to be important enough to be

well worth celebrating despite these minor irritants.

August 13 saw the beginning of a Triple Triumph celebrating the victories in Illyricum, Actium, and Egypt. He also settled more than 120,000 veterans in colonies spread throughout Italy and the Provinces. one of his proudest boasts was that he was the first to pay hard cash for the land that he took.

Octavian had been Consul continuously since Actium, and all 24 lictors had walked before him, symbolizing the power that he had claimed in the oath of 33 BCE. In January of 28 BCE he had entered his 6th Consulship sharing the lictors equally with his colleague, once again Agrippa. This was an important first step in showing the Senate and people that he was now taking steps to restore the Republic. Deeming a Census necessary at this time, he obtained Censorial power for himself and Agrippa. This registered more than four million citizens.

Now in addition to the Census, he began a revision of the Senate roll. The Senate had swollen to over a thousand members, and Octavian wanted to bring it back to the number of 600 that it had been in the days of Sulla. What he actually succeeded in doing was paring down the Senate slightly, getting rid of some of those who had been undeservingly advanced during Triumvirate. In the end, 150 members were ejected outright, and he persuaded a further 50 to resign, permitting them to keep their senatorial trappings, such as the purple stripe on tunic and toga, and purple sandals.

27 BCE

In this year, Octavian was again Consul for the 7th time. Again Agrippa was his colleague. As a further step in restoring the Republic, Octavian returned most of his

powers to Senate, giving a speech in which he "...transferred the commonwealth from my own power to the free choice of the Roman Senate and People." This, due no doubt to skilled management, was met with an immediate outcry of protest from the Senate that he was deserting the Republic. A theatre of prettily staged conferrals and refusals of power ensued, and in the end he was given as a 10 year Consular province most of Spain, Gaul, Syria & Egypt. These were all areas that needed significant military defense. This was supported by the right to appoint many "legates of consular and praetorian rank" as well as the right to declare war and make treaties and control over the various kings and dynasts involved. To deal with this great task, he was also given command of a large part of the army, with legions in Africa, Illyricum and Macedonia (ibid.) The grateful Senate also voted him the title of Augustus, which he used from then on, as we also shall do. Now the government once again ran in an orderly fashion, with two Consuls only, who kept this office throughout the year rather than appointing substitutes called suffectus so that they could go off and do other things. All the other magistrates were once again elected, not simply appointed.

The symbols of honor awarded to him at this time are particularly significant, and it is worthwhile to quote his description of them in Res Gestae 34:

"For this service [the "restoration"] I was named Augustus by resolution of the Senate. The doorposts of my house were officially decked out with young laurel trees, the corona civica (an oak wreath) was placed over the door. and in the Curia I u l i a was displayed the golden shield (clipeus virtutis), which the Senate and the people granted me on account of my bravery, clemency, justice, and piety (virtus, clementia, iustitia, pietas), as is inscribed on the shield itself."

From this point he changed his propaganda from boasting of his power and being the son of a god to a continuous evocation of the old Roman virtues and images. From now on, his honors came from others. It is significant that, like his earlier images and coinage, they also linked him with the gods. The laurel wreath symbolized Victory, and the laurel was Apollo's tree. The trees themselves were a priestly honor harking back to earliest days of Rome. The oak is a tree sacred to Jupiter, and the corona civica of oak leaves is a military honor. The very fact that these honors had been bestowed on him made them weighty indeed, so much so that they have come down to the present day, as a visit to the court buildings in Dedham, for example, will show. Augustus also embarked on a program of architecture, many examples of which not only still survive, but are quoted in numberless ways throughout the West. (Figures 28, 29)

26-23 BCE

For these years Augustus held Consulship 8, 9, and 10. He went to his provinces, dealt firmly with a number of potentially dangerous developments, and then returned to Rome. In the year 23, during his 11th Consulship, a plot against his life was discovered. Augustus was seriously ill at the time, something that had been part and parcel of the pattern of his life since he was a boy. This time, the illness was severe enough for him to have handed over his signet ring to Agrippa. Now he resigned his Consulship, citing his illness. It is generally thought that Augustus, however severely afflicted, used this latest illness as a cover, given his vigorous actions in the past during previous debilitations. Significantly a Republican, Lucius Sestius, succeeded him. This man had been quaestor to Brutus, and still displayed Brutus' statue in his house.

Now Augustus had no official standing within Rome. The Senate voted him a number of powers to make up for this. The

most significant was the full power of the Tribune of the plebs, for as long as he lived. These included the right of proposing plebiscites and also the crucially important right of veto. The right of summoning the Senate and demanding a *senatus consulta* was deemed too demeaning, given the fact that Tribunes, as plebeians, had a low precedence. Augustus was given a special right to convene the Senate himself, and not as Tribune. The fact that Augustus was mightily pleased by this gift from the Senate is stamped in silver, as he caused a number of coins with inscriptions referring to this in that year. He also started the practice of dating his coins using it, as some of his later years bear the inscription TR POT followed by a Roman numeral indicating the year since he first got this power. These inscriptions are varied, and clear examples are hard to find. Most of them appear to be on the as that was issued in the year he was so honored. Succeeding Emperors continued the practice in a more abbreviated and standardized form, and the inscription TRP followed by a Roman numeral is often sufficient to determine the year in which an Imperial Roman coin was minted! Figure 30 shows the obverse of a coin of Domitian, in which the rather long inscription can be clearly seen to end with a TRP XI. This, given that his first year of rule was in 14 AD, means that this coin was minted in 14 + 11 CE, or 25CE.

22-19 BCE

Augustus now went throughout the empire, exercising his *maius imperium* by founding colonies and rewarding or punishing the various city-states and kingdoms as they deservedⁱⁿ in his eyes. In the year 22, meanwhile, back in Rome the two Consuls proved utterly unable to deal with the crises of plague, flood and shortage of grain then afflicting Rome. The people demanded that Augustus be made Dictator, Censor, and that he be given Curatorship of the grain supply. Returning to Rome Augustus did

deal with the grain supply, but did not take the other offices. The Assembly elected one Consul only.

In 21, Augustus, once more traveling throughout the Empire, succeeded in getting Parthia to return the standards that Crassus had lost. Again the people elected only one Consul, so Augustus sent Agrippa, who managed to get two Consuls elected. In that same year Augustus, wanting to tie Agrippa more firmly to himself, arranged that he divorce his beloved Marcella and marry Julia, Augustus' daughter. The match was not a happy one, for neither of the newlyweds could stand the other.

The crisis continued in the year 20, as again only one Consul was elected. This happened in the year 19 also, and not the people were rioting out of control, and the Consul could do nothing to stop it. The Senate, now desperate, begged Augustus to come back to Rome. Augustus arrived on October 12th, and that day was observed thereafter as an annual holiday. Augustus, now aged 43, was granted Consular imperium for life. He had not only gained power, but had been able to use his popularity with the people to attain an unassailable position. He must have considered himself



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well paid for the investment he had made in the Roman people, starting back in 44 BCE when he used his own funds to pay the provisions for them mentioned in Caesar's will.

We have followed the young Octavius as he picked out the path that led to his becoming, in fact, the first Roman Emperor. In my next article, we will see how he used that power to create stability and

and peace, how he continued to make the situation palatable to the King-hating Romans, and how, powerful as he was, he could not achieve his dearest objectives closer to home.

Citations

- v Jones p. 28 top
- vi Jones, p. 28
- vii Jones, p. 30
- viii Jones p. 32 bottom
- ix Zanker, p. 86
- x Jones, p. 45
- xi Jones p. 46, citing Res Gestae 34
- xii Jones, p. 46
- xiii Zanker p. 92
- xiv Zanker, p. 93
- xv Jones p. 53, bottom
- xvi Jones, p. 55

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Figure 29: Sayles and Lavender

Figure 30: Author



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Networking Vitally Important to WIN

Reprint, from original *Winning Ways*; By Beth Deisher

The founders of one of the newest numismatic organizations believes they have a winner. Not just because the acronym is WIN, but because they envision serving needs and providing opportunities not recognized or serviced by any other organization. The group, Women in Numismatics, is scheduled to have its organizational launch Feb. 7, the first evening of the 13th annual Long Beach Numismatic, Philatelic, and Baseball Card Exposition. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Lights restaurant in the Clarion Hotel (formerly Hyatt-Edgewater) on Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach, Calif.

Initial reaction to the idea of forming the organization has been enthusiastic and supportive, reports Sondra Beymer. "everybody I talk to says, 'It's about time!'" Beymer, Teresa Darling and Mary Sauvain took matters in hand and decided to found

WIN during the October 1990 Long Beach Expo. Since then they have been busy identifying potential members and spreading the word about the first organizational meeting.

What do they envision WIN offering that is not already available in other numismatic organizations? "It can offer networking for women," responds Sauvain. Beymer adds: "What I want to focus on is the idea of women getting to know each other and networking as friends as well as professionals. We go to many shows together over the years. We see each other, but we don't even know each other...At least we'll see some friendly faces and we'll get to know each other by being in a group. We can feel more supportive, less alienated and alone."

Professional development

The three founders envision offering programs and workshops geared toward professional development in areas such as marketing, dealing (buying and selling) coins for wholesale as well as retail, authenticating, grading, organizing shows, advertising and customer relations.

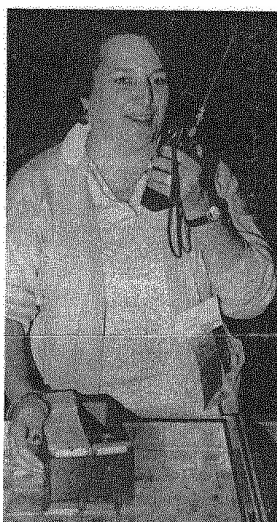
Sauvain points out, "We all have our own strengths and weaknesses, but we can bring that together and offer our strengths to other individuals and help bring them along...."

Identifying role models and mentors, they believe, could be a major factor in bringing more women into numismatics. Although they know from information gathered by other organizations and businesses that the hobby/industry is predominately male-oriented, they note from observation and practical experience that more women seem to be getting involved, either from a professional standpoint on the business side, or as collectors. Darling said: "Women like this industry because really it comes right down to the dollars. And dollars don't care what sex you are!" Relating how they individually got involved in numismatics, each of the women notes that it would have been helpful to have had an organization such as WIN around.

Tired of Computer Jobs

Darling, corporate vice-president of the three-time yearly Long Beach Expo and manager of Zaidman & Lopresto Rare Coins and Jewelry Inc. in Long Beach, says she literally walked into the coin show and decided she would like to be a part of what was going on. "...I was working in a job I didn't like very well," Darling says. Although her job in computers offered good money and lots of hours, she says that she realized that more and more she disliked it. "It was way to machine-oriented and not enough people for me." She signed on as a part-timer 20 years ago with Sam Lopresto and the Long Beach Coin Expo. But it wasn't long before she was full-time. "He needed somebody to start picking up skills that he didn't want to deal with. Not that he

The beginning days of Women In Numismatics



couldn't do them. Sam's very administrative....To this day, he will type my letters. Because he does that better than I do." Darling says she and Lopresto have a good working relationship because each does what he or she likes to do and does best. That means she serves as bourse-chairman for the show and takes care of all the physical arrangements for the show. "...All the details, hiring people...ordering the signs, physically going down and counting the signs to make sure that everybody has one... But he handles all of the advertising."

The Lopresto-Darling team has seen the show grow from 275 tables to more than 600 paid tables at the October show. Over the years they have seen the three Long Beach shows steadily gain in popularity and importance, now ranking among the most important national shows each year.

22-year involvement

Sondra Beymer has been in numismatics for 22 years. Like many women now engaged on the business side, her initial involvement came about because of her husband's interest. "Jack's hobby was coins. Eventually he started going to shows, then he did some mail-order in the publications. It started snow-balling and booming, so he looked around for a shop and he found one in Santa Rosa in a big shopping mall and we've been there ever since."

Not one to be left at home, Sondra started attending shows and helping with the coin business. "I learned it over the years," she explains. Now she primarily sells coins, but not to the public. She's the whole-saler at shows and the most likely member of the Beymer family to be walking the bourse aisles at a show with two-way radio and box of coins in hand, negotiating the best deals. However she also spends time behind the bourse table. "When people initially walk up, they like to talk to me because I make

them feel comfortable," Sondra observes. "Jack is an expert on early American cents and type coins. I'm good at working with the customer and talking to them on a certain level and pricing. But when it comes down to explaining color, grade and pedigrees, then it's really important to talk to Jack."

Has it's advantages

Sauvain believes being a female in the coin business has its advantages. "What I have learned over the years is that a specialized collector, and investors too, will take a female as being more sincere. They will be more likely to listen to your recommendations than they will a man's." Sauvain, who six months ago founded her own company, Mary Sauvain Numismatic Services in Colorado Springs, Colorado, works as a consultant to dealers and individuals and also has begun her own mail-order business, specializing in U.S. colonial material. For six years she was an authenticator-grader for the American Numismatic Association Certification Service and often conducted authentication and grading seminars for the ANA. Prior to her employment with the ANA, she worked in the commercial sector, gaining experience in numismatic auctions and advisory work for financial planners.

Darling says it is especially important for women to not be afraid to put their knowledge and experience to work. "You have to use your tools and not be afraid to use your strengths....I think I'm an honest person, I really don't try to con my customer. And I do have people who deal exclusively with me.... They want to deal with me because they are comfortable with me and they are not afraid of me."

The WIN founders point to their experiences and those of other women they know that could be passed along to newcomers. For example, they believe it is important

that women become aware of how to use their name recognition and credibility in the business world.

"It's important to get this group off the ground. People will be watching and listening to see just what we are going to do," observed Sauvain. "I don't want this to be just another coffee clatch," she added.

Darling said, "I'm personally not looking for a women's activist group or anything like that with any exclusion of the male gender...." She points out that Lopresto is very enthusiastic about the formation of WIN and has offered to pick up the tab for the meal at the organizational meeting as a way of contributing to the organizations launch.

Beymer says her husband, Jack, is also supportive of WIN. "When I told Jack about this organization, he said, 'That's wonderful. It's really important that women get together and bond like we men do.'" With a background in broadcast journalism and graduate work in psychology, Sondra Beymer notes, "Equality of the sexes is really slowly coming about through our own efforts and the men who are supportive."

Adds Darling: "...I think we are very lucky to have the chances to really pursue our chosen fields. Or have the luck to be able to walk into things and be able to be accepted. We are very, very lucky in our field to be able to do that."

The WIN founders emphasize that the organizational meeting will be just that. A time to find out who is interested in joining in setting the course of what direction WIN will take. They expect to elect leaders and formalize the organization with governing documents so that the next meeting can be spent on WIN members helping each other.

Summer Seminar and Colorado Springs

By Dave Heinrich

The American Numismatic Association's Summer Seminar is, as you may already have heard, the best place for collectors to gather and learn from each other. There is a class for just about every interest from Ancient Greek and Roman Coins to The Modern Minting Process, from Hobo Nickel Carving to Digital Coin Photography, from Byzantines and Their Coinage to The Coins of Pre-Federal America. Of course there are also the very popular classes on coin grading, offered at three different levels. Want to really pack in the learning? You can sign up for one of the evening mini-seminars. The mini-seminars are just two nights long each. One of the most popular is Minting Mayhem: Creating Errors. Students in this class learn how errors are created and then make some intentional, and sometimes

creative, errors of their own. Instructor Joe Paonessa, America's greatest left-handed hobo-nickel carver, uses his own mini-minting equipment and all the students take home samples of the errors produced by the class.

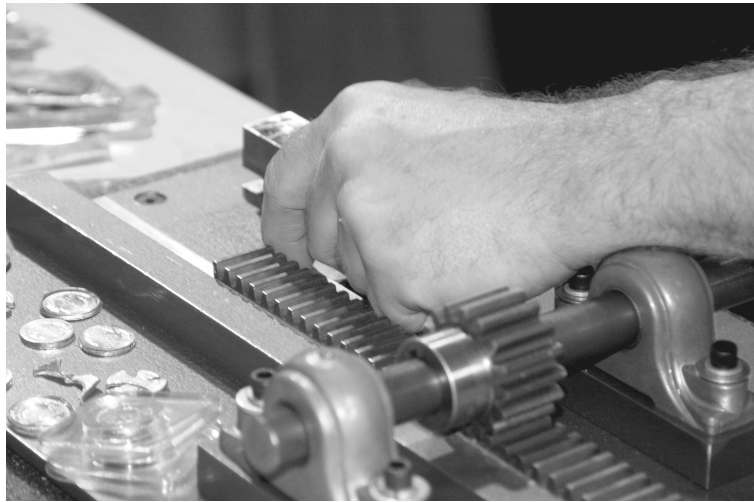
The basic on-campus fees include double occupancy lodging in the residence hall. This is an old style dormitory with no-wasted-space rooms and shared bathrooms in the hall. Some attendees enjoy the close sense of community that this option affords. If you want a little more privacy and comfort, you may want to pay a little extra and stay in one of the multi-occupancy apartments. Here you will have a private bedroom and share a kitchen, living room, double vanity, shower room and private commode with three other students. For the ultimate in comfort there are two bed and breakfast inns within walking distance and the Antlers Hilton is about ten blocks away.

The campus itself is a beautiful place. Seemingly endless green lawns with wide walkways lined with mature shade trees. Watch out for sprinklers popping up in the morning! The college is home to many elegant old stone buildings that are something to admire. The temperature may reach into the nineties for part of the day but the humidity is very low, making the weather quite comfortable, and the temperature drops at night into the fifties or sixties.

There is always something to do at Summer Seminar. There are numismatic bull sessions, one-night discussions on various topics, and the YN auction—always an entertaining evening. Items are donated and auctioned off to provide scholarships for young numismatists to attend the following year's seminar. It is not unusual for someone to raise his or her own bid or, in the midst of a battle over a lot, to ask, "What am I bidding on?" Clearly not your normal auction but it is sure to make you







smile. Some serious items are also included in the auction and bring a lot of interest and serious bidders. Donations to the auction are always welcome. Some like to relax in the evening at the "Lunar Lounge", a large patio behind the dormitories with a memorable view of Pikes Peak, where they can perhaps share a drink and a little "coinversation" in the night air.

There are plenty of opportunities to meet other collectors. Breakfast and lunch are a good time to get to know your instructors and classmates better. The reception before the banquet on the last night offers hors d'oeuvres, wine, and beer to go along with friendly conversation. Everyone is there for the same reason as you. Even if you would try, you could not avoid making new friends.

You might want to enjoy one of the optional tours that are offered. One of the most popular is the Pike's Peak Ascent on the Cog Railway. You will ride on the railway to the

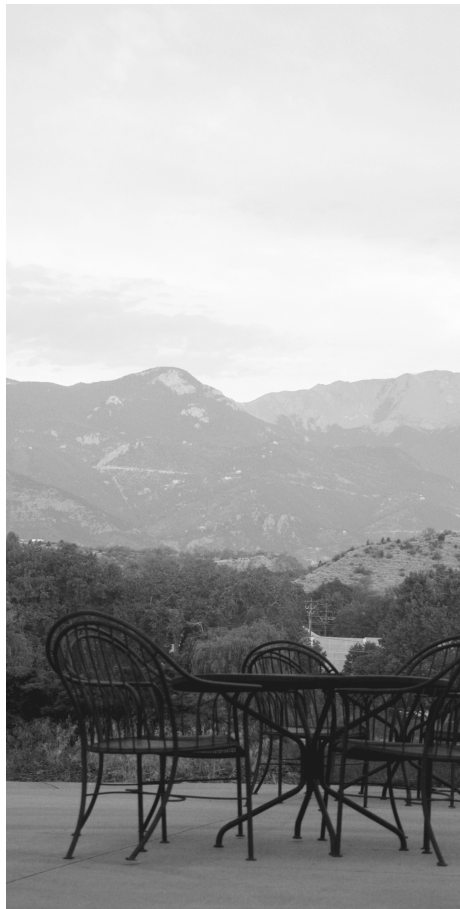
14,110-foot summit of Pikes Peak, where you will be able to see beautiful views all around you, the bottomless pit on the north side and the continental divide to the west. Bring warm clothes for this trip, it can be quite chilly on the mountaintop. There is the ever-popular tour of the Denver Mint, usually a Colorado Rockies baseball game, whitewater rafting, a golf outing and more.

Summer Seminar can also be a getaway from the stress of everyday life—a place where you can forget the troubles of the world for a week or two and immerse yourself in the beauty of Colorado Springs, with pleasant climate and beautiful scenery. There are plenty of interesting little galleries, bookstores, boutiques, coffee shops and eateries in town, open to exploration.

Of course you will want to visit the ANA Museum and Library. The museum is filled with many rarities and you may lose track of time as you marvel at the exhibits. Make

time as you marvel at the exhibits. Make sure you allow time to do some browsing in the library. The staff is extremely helpful and you will find books that you would have trouble locating almost anywhere else. Next to ANA Headquarters is the Colorado Springs Fine Art Center. Admission is ten dollars and it is closed on Mondays. The collection includes some Dale Chihuly pieces, Native American pottery and textiles, changing exhibit spaces, and much more. The Colorado Springs Pioneers' Museum is located downtown in the former El Paso County Courthouse building, built in 1903, about fifteen blocks from Colorado College campus. Admission is free and it is, like the Fine Arts Center, closed on Mondays.

While I have always found it to be an incredible experience, I must leave you with these words of warning. If you go to Summer Seminar, you may not be able to resist coming back every year!



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2007 - Mary, Queen of Scots, By Prue Fitts

2008 - Unusual Portrait Medal of a German Empress, By Dennis Tucker

2009 - The Liberty Cap and Liberty Pole: Symbols of Liberty and Freedom, By Christopher R. McDowell

2010 - Chinese Cash Coins, By Fiachra Rottinghaus

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The Liberty Cap and Liberty Pole: Symbols of Liberty and Freedom

By Christopher R. McDowell

The liberty cap atop a pole is a familiar image to numismatists, but few know its deep history and meaning. This image first appeared on American coins at the end of the Revolutionary War. Under the Articles of Confederation both the states and the federal government were authorized to mint coins. Connecticut Copper coins from 1785-1788 were the first official state coins to use the image of a liberty cap atop a liberty pole. These coins feature an image on the reverse of Liberty holding a liberty pole with a liberty cap on top. A similar image appears on 1787 Nova Eborac coins from New York, and Talbot, Allum & Lee Cents from 1794-1795. Although Vermont was outside the Confederation, it should be noted that it minted coins from 1786-1788 with an image on the reverse that also depicted a liberty pole and cap. Soon thereafter, the image of a liberty cap atop a liberty pole became common on American coins, including Half Cents, 1793-1797; Large Cents, 1793-1796; and Liberty Seated coins, 1837-1891, to name a few. Other coins simply depict liberty wearing a liberty cap, these coins include the Barber coins, 1892-1916; and the Morgan Dollar, 1878-1921.

Currently, no United States coin uses the symbol of the liberty cap and liberty pole. As U.S. coins have shifted from allegorical im-

ages of Liberty to images honoring historical figures such as Lincoln, Franklin, and Washington, Americans forgot the symbolic meaning of the liberty cap and liberty pole, and the current generation of Americans is unaware of the meaning of these symbols.

The cap is brimless, limp, and conical, and fits snugly around the head. The proper name is the "Phrygian cap," after Phrygia, a kingdom that dominated western and central Asia Minor around 800 B.C. People wore the Phrygian cap, not as a symbol of liberty, but as a simple piece of headgear. Many of these people were later conquered by the Romans and enslaved.

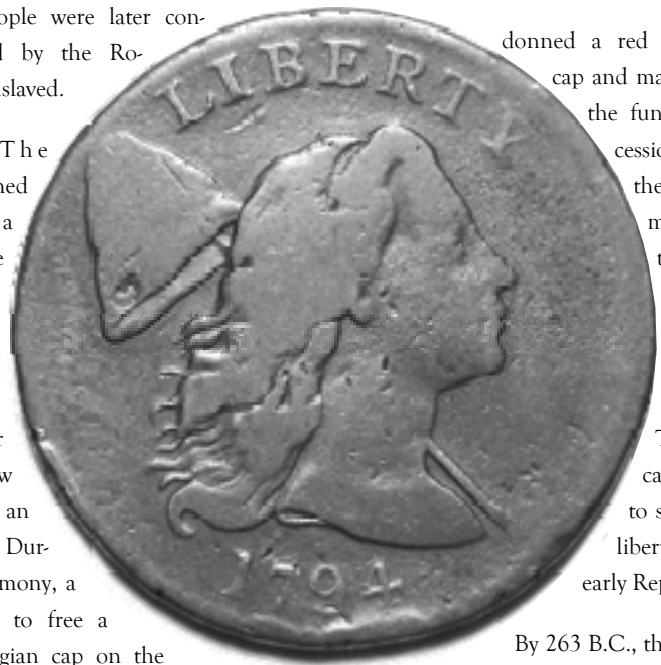
The Phrygian cap morphed from a simple hat to a symbol of liberty due to a Roman ceremony for freeing slaves. In early Rome, a slave could be freed either through a civil law proceeding, a will, or an informal ceremony. During the informal ceremony, a slave holder wishing to free a slave placed a Phrygian cap on the slave's head and touched the slave with a rod. Historians debate the origin of placing a Phrygian cap on the head of a slave as a symbol of

freedom. Some believe that the cap symbolized an egg because of its shape and therefore also symbolized the rebirth of the slave. Others believe the cap covered the shaved head of the former slave while his hair grew back, as a shaved head was generally associated with criminals and slaves. More likely, the cap symbolized the slave's return to his roots. Before the slave's people were captured, they wore the cap. Now free, the slave was again able to wear the headgear of his ancestors.

Regardless of why a slave was presented with a Phrygian cap when freed, it is clear that during the early Republic slaves freed through informal ceremonies were customarily presented with a Phrygian cap. Over time, slaves freed by a slaveholder's will also

donned a red Phrygian cap and marched in the funeral procession of their former master as a public display of their freedom. Thus, the cap came to symbolize liberty in the early Republic.

By 263 B.C., the symbol of the Phrygian cap was widely associated with liberty. When Saturninus took Rome in that year, he placed a Phrygian cap on



the end of his spear and hoisted it in the air as an indication of his promise to free all slaves who joined his forces. The most famous use of the Phrygian cap on a coin came in 44 B.C., when Brutus minted a coin in Asia Minor with the image of the cap between two daggers. This coin was intended, in part, as propaganda to express to the people that Brutus had freed them from the yoke of the dictator, Julius Caesar. Thereafter, the reverse of Roman coins frequently depicted Liberty standing with a Phrygian cap in her right hand and a staff in her left hand. Often, this conveyed the message that the new emperor had freed the people from the oppression of his predecessor. As with many things, the symbol of the Phrygian cap was mostly lost during the Dark Ages.

The Phrygian cap reemerged during the late Renaissance and Enlightenment. In Brittany in 1675, peasants revolted against high taxes imposed to fund Louis XIV's war against Holland. The revolt is known as *Revolte des Bonnets Rouges* ("Red Caps' Revolt") because of the red caps worn by the peasants of the region. The revolt was ruthlessly put down ~ bell-towers of the towns that participated were destroyed and the leaders of the revolt were executed. Consequently, the red cap came to symbolize opposition to taxation. The Sons of Liberty may have adopted the red cap as their symbol around 1765 for this reason. After all, initially, the Sons of Liberty were focused more on opposition to taxation than opposition to the monarchy.

Unlike the people of Brittany, who wore the cap as a normal part of their everyday lives, the Sons of Liberty wore the red cap as a symbol. The French claim the liberty cap as their own special revolutionary symbol. However, Americans first popularized in modern times the liberty cap as a symbol of anti-taxation

and, eventually, liberty. The French did contribute to the history of the cap, as they took the wearing of liberty caps to an extreme during the French Revolution. Indeed, the people of Brittany had their revenge against Louis XIV's grandson when on June 20, 1792, Louis XVI was obliged to don a Phrygian cap and drink to the health of the people



when a mob stormed the Tuileries.

While the history of the Phrygian cap as a symbol of liberty is relatively easy to trace, the history of the liberty pole is a little more obscure. As stated earlier, the coins of Rome often depicted Liberty holding a pole and the emancipation ceremony included a rod. However, the Phrygian cap was rarely, if ever, depicted on top of a staff, rod, or pole. Indeed, on Brutus' coin, the cap is depicted with two daggers and not on a pole. Moreover, the term, "liberty pole" is generally unknown in the literature of freedom until the early days of the American Revolution when it suddenly burst onto the scene in the late 1760s in New York City during the Battle of Golden Hill.

The Battle of Golden Hill

took place in New York City from January 13 to 19, 1770, some six weeks before the Boston Massacre. In order to fully understand the Battle of Golden Hill, one must go back to May 20, 1766, when news first reached New York City of the repeal of the Stamp Act. Upon hearing the news, the people gathered to demonstrate their excitement and to show their loyalty and gratitude to the King. The next month, the people assembled again on the King's birthday, June 4th, and erected a great pole in his honor, which they burned amidst a 25 gun salute. In a nearby area, the people raised another pole, which was not torched, bearing the inscription, "The King, Pitt, and Liberty." Thus, the first liberty pole was born as a symbol of freedom from taxation without representation and was ironically raised to honor King George III's benevolence.

As the situation between the King and his subjects worsened, British soldiers cut down the liberty pole. The next day, soldiers attacked a group attempting to raise a new pole, injuring several people. Over the next year, the Sons of Liberty and soldiers played a cat and mouse game of raising and cutting down several liberty poles, with many of the incidents turning violent. Eventually, the soldiers tired of the sport and let the liberty pole stand unmolested for three years. At last, on January 13, 1770, the soldiers emerged from their barracks with a renewed vigor to destroy the pole. The Sons of Liberty were equally determined to keep the now iron-reinforced liberty pole from being destroyed. The British plan was to blow the pole up (or down) with gun powder. After three days of fighting, the soldiers leveled the pole and cut it to pieces, which they piled in front of the headquarters of the Sons of Liberty.

Angered by this insult, the Sons of Liberty fought a two day conflict with the soldiers during which several lives were lost. Since the skirmishes took place in the area known as Golden Hill, the conflict became known as the "Battle of Golden Hill." It was

here that the first blood of the coming conflict was shed.

While these events are not common knowledge today, our forefathers were well aware of the Battle of Golden Hill and the liberty pole. In fact, virtually every city in America had a liberty pole. In Boston, after the British cut down the liberty tree, it was replaced with a liberty pole and a cap was placed on top of the pole to notify members of secret meetings. In the town of Holmes Hole, near Boston, the people erected an especially tall, thick liberty pole. So tall, in fact, that the pole could be seen by ships at sea. This pole caught the eye of the captain of the British ship Unicorn in 1778 after the mast of his ship was damaged. The captain told the city leaders that if they did not agree to sell him the liberty pole, he would consider it an act of rebellion and would order his guns to fire upon the town. The city leaders agreed to sell the pole and the captain stated he would return the next day with a crew to retrieve it. Legend has it that during the night several small girls borrowed their fathers' augers and drilled holes in the pole and packed it with gunpowder. Using the hem of their petticoats for wadding, they lit a fuse and blew the liberty pole to pieces. Whether or not the legend of the little girls is true, the pole was destroyed in order to prevent the British from using it. Encounters such as these were not uncommon during the Revolutionary War, and these stories were widely known to the soldiers of Washington's Army.

Accordingly, when American coin engravers looked for an image to symbolize liberty and freedom, they adopted the liberty pole and liberty cap ~ two images that

had significant meaning to the people of post-colonial America. Just as the slaves of Ancient Rome donned red caps to demonstrate their freedom, the new nation now declared to the world that it was free through these images engraved on its coins.

Although most Americans enjoyed their

be topped by the Statute of Freedom. The original plans called for the Statute of Freedom to wear a Phrygian cap. Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis, objected to the headgear: "history renders it inappropriate to a people who were born free and would not be enslaved," he stated. As a result, the design was changed.

Another controversial use of the liberty cap and pole was by the woman's suffrage movement. On July 27, 1913, Sylvia Pankhurst delivered a "defiant speech" and led a "riotous crowd toward Downing Street" in London. According to the story that appeared in the New York Times the next day, "[a]t the head of the procession men and women carried sticks flying the suffragette flag, surmounted by a large red liberty cap." Thus, even into the early 20th century, the red cap of liberty was widely understood as a symbol of freedom from oppression.

However, the morphing of the image from a universally popular image of Liberty to a symbol for the struggle for freedom of Southern slaves and women's struggle for equality caused a decrease in the public's overall acceptance and use of the image. Today, the liberty cap and liberty pole are rarely seen.

Coin collectors often like to hold coins in their hands and wonder who else may have held them and what they might have purchased with the coins. However, the liberty cap and liberty pole remind us that the images on a coin have a history all their own. Next time you hold an early American coin, examine its images and ask yourself what do the symbols mean to both you and the first person who held the coin.



freedom from the King, a significant portion of the American population was still not free. These people too yearned to place the Phrygian cap on their head and experience the joys of liberty. During the course of the 19th century, the liberty cap came to also symbolized the slaves' struggle for freedom and, as such, abolitionists adopted the liberty cap as a symbol.

The controversial nature of the new symbolism of the liberty cap is demonstrated by an incident that took place in 1855. In that year, plans were underway for the new dome of the nation's Capitol. The Capitol dome was to

Mary, Queen of Scots

By Prue Fitts

She was a Queen at six days old; a queen in waiting at 15; a Queen at 17; and a Queen Dowager at 18. She had three husbands - one of whom she was accused of murdering and a son who would be ruler not just of her own country, but also of the country she believed she was entitled to rule. She was cheered, reviled, forced to abdicate, and be-headed by the woman she hoped to supplant.



Mary at age 12.

And who was she? Mary, daughter of James V of Scotland and Marie de Guise was born on 8 December 1542. She became Queen of Scots upon the death of her father. Hoping to unite this kingdom with his own, Henry VIII of England proposed marriage between his 5 year old son and heir, Prince Edward and Mary but the independent Scots didn't want to be absorbed, so they crowned Mary in September of 1543. Henry retaliated by sending an army to Scotland for a campaign called the "rough wooing". Its carnage and devastation did not bring

the Scots to heel; rather it made them more determined to sever their ties.

Most of the gold coinage was struck in the period of 1542–1558 called the "First Period" or "Before Marriage". Her name appears with the initials IG Jacobus Gubernator or James, Earl of Arran, Regent and Governor of Scotland. Some have the initial A for the mint master. There are Abbey Crowns at 20 shillings (later raised to 22 shillings), and 20 and 44 shilling pieces in gold. In billion, there was the curiously named Bawbee (equal to 6 shillings), the half bawbee, the plack (equal to 4 pennies), the lion at 1½ penny (with a lion rampant on the reverse), and the penny.



From 1547, this shows a facing infant head with an open crown. The reverse has a Cross forchee with cinquefoils and cross in angles. This was struck in Edinburgh.

Henry VIII died in 1547 and, by the summer of 1548, Mary was sent to France as the fiancée of the Dauphin, Francis, the eldest son of Henry II. She was raised in his family as a French speaking Catholic and learned all the crafts she would need as his ornamental wife;



Mary and Francis.

languages, needlework, drawing and horsemanship. And none of the skills needed to run a country for she was not expected to do so. Coinage continued to be struck in her name in Scotland. From 1553, silver *testoons* show a crowned Mary or an initial with a crown above, or a shield with a crown above. The reverses have either a shield or cross potent. Both the *testoon* and the *half testoon* bear the legend "In thy strength deliver me." (Note: All inscriptions are in Latin. I have given just the translations into English.)

By 1555, Mary's mother became regent for her in Scotland and issued a three pound gold piece (equal to 60 shillings) or *PORTRAIT RYAL*, showing an older Mary.



She faces right with an inscription similar to the testoon on the obverse. The reverse reads, "The just man lives by faith."

Three years later, Mary married Francis in 1558 when she was 16 and he was 15. Scotland issued a *Ducat*, equal to 20 shillings



Facing busts of the newlyweds show that they rule not only over France but also its geo-political county of Vienne. The reverse has a cross of 8 interlinked dolphins, a play on the word Dauphin, with Lorraine crosses in the angles.

and testoons and half-testoons. There was a new issue of half alloy called a twelvepenny Groat or

"nonsunt" (Note: So called because of the inscription, **IAM NON/SUNT DVO/SED VNA/CARO** or They are no more twain but one flesh.) Coinage from this second period, 1558-1560, is called the Francis and Mary period.

In less than seven months, Mary Tudor, Queen of England, died and her half sister, Elizabeth, succeeded. Devious Henry II, King of France, proclaimed Francis and Mary as King and Queen of England, on the very day that Elizabeth



was crowned Queen of England. The Scottish Parliament voted that Mary could award Francis the Crown Matrimonial, which meant he could inherit her crown if she died first. Scottish coinage proclaimed that they were King and Queen of Scotland and Dauphin and Dauphiness of Vienne. There were numerous *testoons* with an FM monogram on the obverse and the coat of arms of the reverse.



Mary did have a claim to the English throne through her grandmother, Margaret, the elder sister of Henry VIII. But Margaret had given up her family's claim when she married James IV, Scottish grandfather to Mary. It was this quest for the English throne which shaped Mary's later life. Had she paid more attention to the throne she was on, some theorize, she might have retained it and later, her head.

Life changed swiftly for Mary. Her father in law, Henry II died in 1559. Three months later, Francis was crowned King of France. Already a Queen, Mary was not crowned

with him. Coin legends from Scotland state that the couple is now King and Queen of France and Scotland and a new coat of arms appeared on the testoon. At the coronation was Henry, Lord Darnley, 14, who would become Mary's second husband and whose murder would ultimately lead to her abdication. During the next year, both Mary's mother and her husband died. Suddenly, from being Queen of two countries, she was still Queen of one but Queen Dowager of the other, and worse, a childless Queen Dowager. Her options were limited. She could remain in France with her mother-in-law, another Queen Dowager, effect a brilliant second marriage, or go home.

The brilliant marriage did not materialize and in August of 1561, she sailed home to a completely unfamiliar country. Coinage from this period 1560-65 is called "The first widowhood". Gold is represented by a unique piece with a crown over arms on the obverse and four crowned M's crosswise on the reverse, with thistles in angles. The silver testoon



shows a dowdy Mary (she was only 18) in contemporary costume. (Note: The obverse has the normal inscription. The reverse states O Lord, save They people.) No gold coinage was struck after this period.

The Scottish system of government was tripartite: the nobles ruled their own fiefdoms as princes (resenting any interference from the Monarchy); the gentry ruled lands received from the crown with their own rules; and the burgesses were the urban class.

The majority of the Scots were Catholics but most of the Lords were Protestant. A devoted Catholic, Mary nevertheless promised to uphold Protestantism. Her strong-minded Guise uncles were in control of the government and she left it that way. Her duties were for the most part, only ceremonial.

The Scots were initially delighted with

their Queen who was called the most beautiful woman in Europe.



She was six feet tall, slender with a pale complexion and frizzy auburn hair. She was composed and dignified. But they soon complained that the French court she had brought with her — about 250 persons — were frivolous and concerned only with balls and banquets which the Scots regarded as "devilish". All agreed that she must marry again soon and produce a son to ensure the succession.

Re-enter, Henry, Lord Darnley of the



ambitious Lennox family. He also had a claim to

the English throne and he was a Catholic. For both reasons, Elizabeth withheld permission for the marriage. She did, however, agree that he could visit his cousin, Mary, in the spring of 1565. Darnley made an excellent first impression as he was proficient in all the gentlemanly skills. Mary was entranced. Since her return to Scotland, Mary had been trying unsuccessfully to get Elizabeth to name *her* as successor to the throne of England. There ensued a period of verbal fencing as Elizabeth seemed to agree even offering her own favorite as a possible husband. Then she would withdraw the offer and any commitment. Mary realized that Elizabeth would not agree under any circumstances.

Mary required permission to marry from the Scottish Lords, and because they were annoyed with Elizabeth's interference, they agreed to the marriage with Darnley. Mary knighted him and he swore an oath of loyalty to her. This was a blatant act of treason to Queen Elizabeth who commanded him to return to England at once. He refused. On the 29th of July, 1565, Mary and Darnley were married in a Catholic ceremony and they threw handfuls of gold and silver coins to the crowds outside. Darnley was proclaimed King and Mary, besotted with love, deferred to him in all things.



This medal was struck with the inscription, Mary and Henry Grace of God, Queen and King of Scotland.

Not surprisingly, this period of coinage, 1565-67, is called Mary and Henry Darnley. A silver, dollar sized coin, called a ryal was struck equal to 30 shillings. The first and rarer type shows facing busts of Henry and Mary with a date

below. His name is given precedence. The second one has a crowned shield with a thistle on each side on the obverse and gives precedence to Mary's name. The reverse shows a tortoise climbing a palm tree. There are two-third and one-third ryals as well with the same designs.

Immediately, Queen Elizabeth seized all of Darnley's family holdings in England. The Scotts who were not Catholic renounced their allegiance to Mary, becoming outlaws. The ensuing battle between them and the royalists resulted in a significant victory for Mary and Darnley. By the end of October, Mary was pregnant. All events seemed to justify her marriage.

The nation rejoiced. However, Darnley realized that a child would forever block HIM from the crown. He could succeed only if the Crown Matrimonial were his and both Mary and the child died. Mary refused to grant it to him until he came of age (he was 18 to her 22). Her love for him had quickly burned out when she saw the violent man he was when thwarted. In her Court was David Rizzio, an Italian and Mary's constant companion who gradually became a powerful advisor. Rumors started that he was the father of her unborn child and a plot to kill him developed. The real motive was to remove Mary from power and install her half brother James Stewart, Earl of Moray as the real ruler with Darnley as a puppet King. Many signed the contract and Darnley himself was an enthusiastic conspirator, insisting that the murder take place in front of Mary in hopes that she would miscarry.

On March 9, 1566, the conspirators pounced. Mary felt cold steel on her throat and a gun aimed at her misfired. As Rizzio was dragged away, Mary was put under house arrest. Queen Elizabeth was horrified when she learned of Rizzio's murder and the imprisonment of the anointed sovereign of Scotland. She sent immediate word of support. Darnley soon realized his own vulnerability and begged Mary to take him back, stating that he only wanted the Crown Matrimonial.

Mary pretended to go into labor and two days later, she slipped out of the castle taking Darnley with her. Within a week, 4,000 troops gathered and within a second week, supporters had doubled in numbers. She returned

in triumph to Edinburgh to reclaim her throne. In a wise political move, she pardoned some of the conspirators who had murdered Rizzio. Darnley came before the Privy Council, stating that he was never involved in the plot. It was a blatant lie, but Mary protected him. This protected her reputation and gave legitimacy to their unborn child.

On the 19th of June, after 26 hours of labor, her son James VI



was born and her popularity soared. James was also a player in the larger game of succession as Queen Elizabeth was still not married. (Note: He would indeed inherit Elizabeth's crown and become James I of England.) Atypically, Mary kept the baby with her instead of setting him up in his own rooms. She, too, felt that he was in danger from his father.

The marriage deteriorated. Mary knew that Darnley continued to work against her. He wrote the Pope that Mary's religious beliefs were "dubious" and that she was not taking care of the Catholic cause as she should. He refused to go to James' baptism, an unforgivable insult to his wife. The service was Catholic, which offended the Protestants. Queen Elizabeth's representatives were told not to address Darnley as King.

The Lords proposed to Mary that they would help her end the marriage if she would pardon those Lords who had plotted against her. She agreed but only if the divorce were lawful and not prejudicial to her son. The "law of consanguinity" had been given a dispensation

so could not be invoked by the church. In Scotland, a King could not be found guilty of treason. Further, to arrest the father of the Prince would cause embarrassment and a scandal. She told the Lords that she would have to wait for Darnley's death. This simple statement sealed his fate.

James Hepburn, Lord Bothwell,



had rescued her after the death of Rizzio and had become her greatest supporter. Another man with a motive, his goal was to marry her and rule. There was never any doubt of his complicity in the conspiracy to kill Darnley. In February of 1567, Darnley and Mary moved to the south of Edinburgh, where he was in the last stages of recovering from his latest bout of syphilis (Note: Ironically, this illness prevented his planned escape from Scotland on Christmas Eve.) and its ghastly treatment. A curious omission in his retinue were his guards. Both he and Mary were concerned about his safety. She visited him daily but stayed nearby.

The evening of the 9th Mary spent part of the evening with Darnley. It was his last day of convalescence but she demurred on staying the night. As she left, she noted that one of Bothwell's men was filthy. "How begrimed you are!" she said. She did not know the "grime" was gunpowder. A scant two hours later, a massive explosion shook the whole town and awakened Mary who thought it was cannon fire. Darnley's house was totally destroyed. Three servants were found dead, but there was no trace of the King for another three hours when someone checked the garden. The King and his valet were nearly naked and had not a mark on them. An emergency session of the Privy Council was called to deal with this latest major political scandal and how to find the traitors who committed the

deed. Mary did not realize that it was in the best interests of many of them not to solve the murder.

An autopsy concluded that Darnley had been blown into the garden by the explosion and had suffered grave internal injuries. Mary offered a substantial reward and a pardon for the identification of the murderers. The candidates were numerous. Many of the Lords pardoned for Rizzio's murder wanted revenge on Darnley. Any real evidence had been blown up at the site and the one document which listed the names of the conspirators was carefully guarded by them.

Mary was the chief beneficiary of Darnley's death. It freed her of his embarrassing behaviour, his plots to overthrow her and take precedence as ruler from her and their son. But in spite of the Casket letters, (Note: These famous letters no longer exist except as copies. Used to show that Mary was by now in an adulterous affair with Bothwell and an active planner in Darnley's murder, there is ample evidence that these letters are deliberate forgeries made to implicate her.) there is no evidence. And there are arguments that her claim to the English throne was stronger with him alive. Further, Archbishop Hamilton was being restored to a position of adjudicating matrimonial cases and would be sure to support her against his long-standing enemy, the Lennoxes. Mary always maintained that she was the intended victim in the bombing, and that merest chance had saved her. She took her son to Edinburgh castle and retired into seclusion. Her subsequent behavior seems to prove that she was not involved either in the murder or in an affair with Bothwell at the time. Coinage for this period is referred to as the Fifth Period or "Second widowhood" and consists of the ryal,



The identical design as the second type of the ryal of Mary and Henry except that Mary's name appears alone. The reverse is the same as is the date of 1567.

the 2/3 ryal and the 1/3 ryal.

A speedy trial acquitted Bothwell who was home in bed with his wife when the explosion occurred. Mary does not appear to be suspicious of his involvement at this time and stood by him. This and her increasing dependence on him produced a placard in Edinburgh.



The mermaid was the traditional portray of a whore; Mary is depicted with a whip to protect the hare, Bothwell's heraldic device. The hare is protected by pointed swords. This version carries the motto, which translated reads "Destruction awaits the wicked on every side".

Her downward spiral continued. Bothwell, still married, proposed to Mary. She refused. He kidnapped her, raped (Note: Rape on the person of a Queen is treason. She publicly pardoned him for this.) her and kept her a virtual prisoner until she changed her mind. A marriage contract was signed by Mary, promoting the lie that she was still in charge of her own actions. On the 15th of May, they were married in a Protestant ceremony, clearly demonstrating her complete submission. She wore her widow's weeds



as she had when she married Darnley.

Ultimately, it was the marriage rather than the murder which caused her downfall. Most Scots were outraged, believing that the murder had been for just this. Queen Elizabeth also believed in Bothwell's guilt and his danger to the young Prince. Catholic Europe considered that Mary had married a heretic in an unlawful ceremony and had committed bigamy. Her personal confessor left and worse, the Pope broke off communications. No one considered that she had been a virtual prisoner when this happened or that she had been desperately ill for months, probably with a nervous breakdown. Scotland moved ever closer to civil war with the Confederate Lords on one side, and Mary and Bothwell on the other. The Lords promised to restore Mary to the throne if she abandoned Bothwell. Pregnant, she was not willing to do this.

On the 15th of June, the two armies met at Carberry Hill. Reinforcements for the Queen never arrived and so many men drifted off or deserted that the outcome of a battle was foregone. An agreement was reached whereby she would surrender to the Lords in exchange for Bothwell's freedom. She returned to Edin-

burgh to the shouts and jeers of her subjects and soldiers, "Bum the whore! Kill her! Drown her." Her reign was over. There was no trial for she held the damning evidence against her accusers. She was imprisoned at Lochleven Castle where she miscarried twins, and while still recovering, was forced to abdicate in favor of her 13 month old son.

Elizabeth refused to negotiate with the Scottish Lords as long as Mary was imprisoned. She declared that war would result if they deposed or executed her. The Lords hurriedly crowned James in a Protestant ceremony, the first ever in Scottish history. Bothwell was in the North but by September, he was placed in honorable confinement by King Frederick of Denmark and Norway.

Mary escaped from Lochleven during a May Day celebration the next year, 1568. She rallied an army, stating her abdication was under duress. Briefly, it looked as if she would regain her kingdom and her titles. But at the Battle of Langside, two weeks later, her forces and her hopes were crushed. Her friends tried to persuade her to flee to France where she had lands and income, but she decided to cast her lot with her cousin Elizabeth. It was yet another bad choice. The resolution, when it came 19

years later, would cost her her head.

Post script. Bothwell died on 14 April in 1578 from imprisonment in barbaric conditions. There is no record of Mary's reaction to his death. Because she spent the rest of her life plotting the assassination of her cousin, Elizabeth, she was beheaded on February 8, 1587. She wore red which was the liturgical color for Catholic martyrdom.

Mary's son James succeeded to the throne of Scotland at the age of one in 1567 when Mary abdicated. By 1578, the value of silver had risen so much that the silver coins of 30th Mary and James were countermarked with a crowned thistle. The *ryals* were re-issued at 36s 9d and Mary's *testoons* were valued at 7s 4d.

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Chinese Cash Coins

By Fiachra Eileen Rottinghaus

Most of us are used to collecting American coins, but I became interested in Chinese cash coins because they look interesting and are easy to collect. Chinese cash coins are intriguing because they have square holes in the middle and interesting Chinese inscriptions. But the most appealing thing about cash coins is that they give a young collector like me the chance to get historical coins that can be two thousand years old for only a dollar or two.

Before cash coins were invented, the Chinese used knife money and spade money as currency. They got their names from their strange shapes. They were cast in bronze.

Although the Historical Record of Han claims that the high officer T'ai Kung intro-

duced circular money featuring a square hole in about 1100 B.C., these round Chinese cash coins were most likely first minted around 221 B.C. by Emperor Qin Shi Huang, founder of the Qin Dynasty. Chinese cash coins always have holes in the center because the common way to carry money in ancient China was on a string or wire. Chinese cash coins were traditionally made from copper, brass, or iron. Silver and gold cash coins are also known to exist, but these are extremely rare. The last Chinese cash coins were struck in the early twentieth century, but all earlier cash coins were cast.

The mold from which Chinese cash coins were cast looked like a flattened tree.

Molten metal was poured into a hole down the main shaft, and then the metal ran into branch-like sprues and into the small clusters of coin molds on the end of each sprue. Before the metal was completely cooled, the coins were broken off the sprue, and the rough edge where they had been broken was later filed smooth.

In his book on *Chinese Currency*, F. Schjoth describes how he managed to collect cash coins that were almost two thousand years old in circulation during the late nineteenth century. It is fascinating that these ancient coins were still in circulation after so many centuries. Cash coins are still very common and easy to collect for numismatists today.



Unusual Portrait Medal of a German Empress

By Dennis Tucker

Rarely is a German princess or queen, or even an empress, seen at center stage on a portrait medal, if her husband was a sovereign ruler who wore the crown in the family. Most often she will be depicted—when she appears at all—as one of a pair of conjoined busts, alongside (usually behind) her spouse, or perhaps facing him, in a wedding or anniversary commemorative. The medal featured here is among those uncommon German pieces that do give the limelight to a royal woman. She is Augusta Louisa, born a princess of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach—a German duchy, geographically small but with considerable cultural and political weight. Augusta was born in a time of upheaval in Central Europe, when monarchs were being toppled like chessboard pawns,



and ancient institutions hung in the balance. But from this tiny duchy, about half the size of Rhode Island, she would grow up to become queen of the most powerful

German kingdom, and the leading lady of a unified new empire.

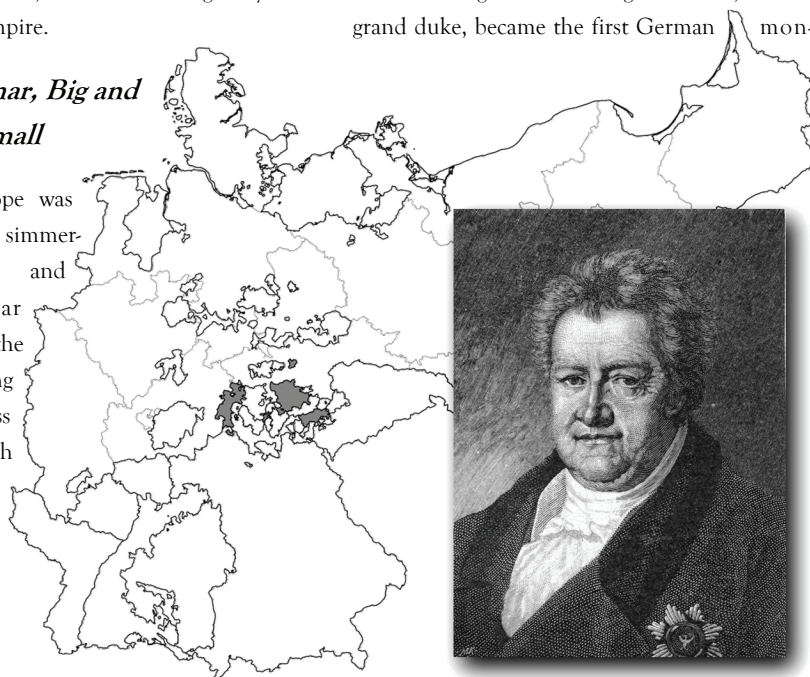
Saxe-Weimar, Big and Small

Europe was embroiled in simmering tensions and outright war throughout the decade leading up to Princess Augusta's birth in late 1811. Her grandfather, Duke Karl August, was a general commanding 25,000 men in the service of the Prussian king (one

of Napoleon Bonaparte's strongest foes in the early 1800s). Karl August's capital city, Weimar, was overrun and sacked in 1806. After the French victory, the duke, to avoid having his lands completely confiscated, agreed to join Napoleon's Confederation of the Rhine. This saved him his throne but put his armed forces, and considerable monetary reparations, at the French emperor's disposal. The relationship lasted for several years, until Napoleon's disastrous Russian campaign of 1812, which brought heavy casualties to Saxe-Weimar's soldiers. Distressed by the situation, and emboldened by the dent Russia put in his French master's armor, Karl August switched sides and threw his lot back in with the kingdom of Prussia.

He joined the Grand Alliance and led 30,000 men in the Netherlands. After imperial France was defeated, Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach was enlarged geographically and elevated from a duchy to a grand duchy (1815) by the Congress of Vienna.

Augusta Louisa's grandfather, now a grand duke, became the first German mon-



Augusta's grandfather, Karl August, duke (later grand duke) of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach (shaded area, set within the greater German Empire). (Map by David Liuzzo)

arch to grant his people a liberal constitution, and with it, fairly generous freedom of the press. This was in 1816. Karl August's populist streak wasn't a byproduct of the Napoleonic Wars, however. Back in the day (way back, around the



time Britain's American colonies were starting to act up), he had been raised under his widowed mother's enlightened influence and the tutelage of liberal educators. His court at Weimar was a bastion of progressive thought and politics: one of his earliest acts as duke (in 1775, when he came of age and his



Portrait of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe at the age of 62. Painted in 1811 by Louise Seidler, who later taught Augusta how to draw.

mother's regency ended) was to appoint the brilliant Johann Wolfgang Goethe as privy counselor. Normally stiff German court customs gave way to both reform and revelry—but not in the decadent sense of, for example, the duke's Hanoverian cousins in England (or Karl Eugene of Württemberg, who “conducted himself like an oriental sultan,”² or Friedrich II of Hesse-Kassel, who paid for his excesses by so infamously renting out his soldiers to other armies . . .). Karl August did his fair share of drinking and carousing, but serious literature, art, and science flourished under his regime.³ Goethe brought the philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder to Weimar to reform its educational system; the University of Jena cemented the

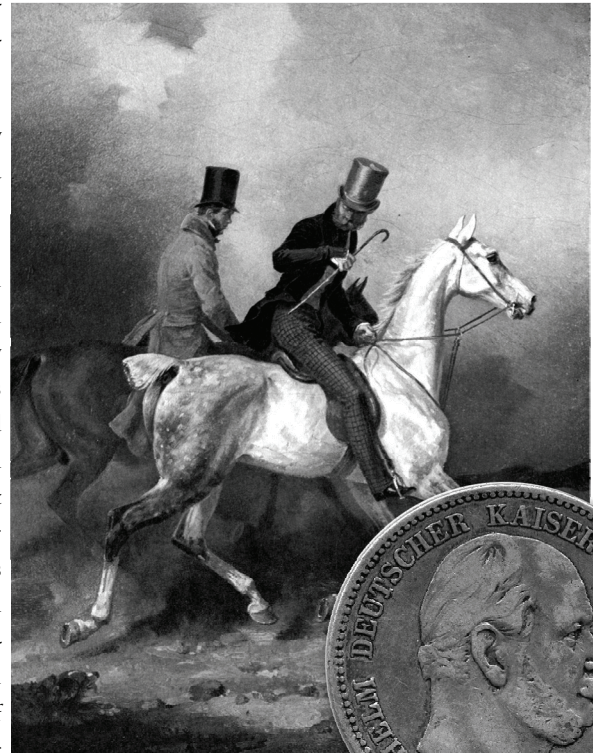
duchy's reputation as the intellectual center of the German states; and Friedrich Schiller helped bring a Weimarer renaissance to German theater.

In 1828, a few weeks before Augusta Louisa's 17th birthday, her grandfather died, and her father, Karl Friedrich, became grand duke. Although the new ruler preferred fairy tales to philosophy, and though the influential Goethe was laid to rest four years later, Weimar continued for many years as a Central European cultural hub. Augusta herself enjoyed a broad and liberal education from the best of Weimar royal academe: her drawing lessons were from the hand of the court painter, Louise Seidler, and her music lessons were taught by the Kappellmeister, Johann Nepomuk Hummel, a protégé of Mozart's.

The Princess Bride

By the time of her father's accession,

Augusta had already met the man who would become her husband. Prince Wilhelm of Prussia



Prince Wilhelm riding in 1836 (painting by Franz Krüger, Berlin); and

a silver Prussian coin with his portrait as king.

was not heir to a throne—his elder brother was—so his education was narrow and consisted of the standard Prussian

princely fare: mili-

tary training and army service. In his teens, during the Napoleonic Wars, young Wilhelm had proven himself a brave soldier. When he and Augusta met in 1826 she was 15 years old, and he was nearly 30. To Wilhelm the young prin-

When Weimar was overtaken by Napoleon Bonaparte, Karl August was away, at the head of his troops in the Prussian army. The rest of the royal family had fled the capital city, but Augusta's grandmother, Louise Augusta, stayed behind. She cleverly flattered the French emperor, who had taken up residence in the royal palace. When Napoleon asked why Karl August was foolish enough to make war, she replied, “My husband has been thirty years in the service of Prussia. The duke could not quit the king's service with honor at the moment when he had to contend against an enemy so powerful as Your Majesty.” Napoleon was pleased. “Madame,” he told the duchess, “you are the most venerable woman I ever knew; you have saved your husband. I pardon him; but he owes the pardon to you.”¹



collection has experienced a rebirth since the early 1990s, growing from fewer than 9,000 Islamic and Oriental coins to more than 20,000 in early 2008. (Portrait by Vladimir Lukich Borovikovskiy)

“One of the best and most significant women of her time”—Goethe, referring to Augusta's mother, Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna of Russia. She was a well-known benefactor of the arts and sciences. Of particular note to numismatists: the grand duchess was the main patron of the Orientalisches Münzkabinett Jena—the University of Jena's Oriental coin collection, founded in 1840. At its peak before World War I, the collection held some 14,000 pieces and was among the preeminent institutions of Oriental numismatics. Twenty years after the war almost a third of the collection was returned to the deposed grand-ducal family as personal property, and after World War II several hundred coins were lost. The

cess was not as attractive as her older sister (who had married his younger brother), and at any rate he was in love with a Polish princess, Elisa Radziwill. The starched paladins of Prussian high society deemed Elisa not of royal-enough blood, and Wilhelm was pressured by his parents to marry Augusta. Like most royal marriages of that era, it was one of convenience and political advantage, not love. In letters to his sister, Wilhelm would describe the princess as nice and clever, "but she leaves me cold," and he further remarked on Augusta's "lack of femininity." Coming from an arch-conservative Prussian prince, the subtext is clear: Augusta had opinions of her own—liberal opinions, no less—and she had the unseemly tendency to voice them.

The royal couple led a dramatic life. Wilhelm's elder brother became king of Prussia in 1840, and Wilhelm served him as a staunch supporter of everything conservative in German life: monarchy, nobility, army. When the Europe-wide revolutions of 1848 came, Wilhelm had to flee to England, while Augusta and their two children hid in their summer palace. Her husband learned no love of democracy during his short stay across the English Channel; he came back to Prussia more conservative than ever, and helped crush the lingering populist rebellion in the Grand Duchy of Baden. Meanwhile Prussian liberals discussed whether the king and his brother should both abdicate, with Augusta taking up as regent for her young son. If she seriously considered this possibility, she left no clue for historians, having burned her letters and diaries from that tumultuous period.

After his brother suffered a stroke in 1857, Wilhelm took the role of prince regent.

He ascended the throne himself in 1861 after the childless king finally died. Augusta was now queen of Prussia.

From Princess To Queen



Wilhelm and Augusta in a gold Prussian coronation medal.

(Actual size 42.5 mm)

prince before him. He was the first heir to the kingdom's throne to attend a public school, the University of Bonn.) Wilhelm called Augusta his Feuertopf ("firebrand"). She disliked Berlin so much that she lived most of the year in Coblenz or Weimar. Historian Lamar Cecil writes that, "Her absences did not disturb Wilhelm, [who] enjoyed his freedom like a schoolboy on vacation."⁴

Through the 1860s Prussia's star was guided by the skillful maneuvering of its new prime minister, Otto von Bismarck. Nearly a decade of his political tricks

Throughout their marriage the royal couple bickered. What a match they made!—she a cultured child of progressive Weimar, he a reactionary soldier of the Prussian old school. They disagreed on most political and social issues. (Augusta managed to secure for their eldest son, Friedrich, an education more progressive than any Prussian

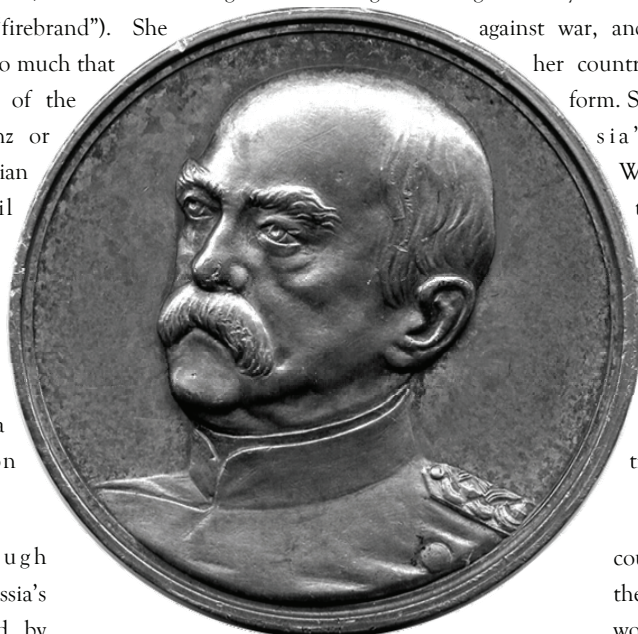
and military action climaxed in war with France. By 1871 Prussia was unquestionably the dominant force among the German states (until that point a collection of independent nations, with Austria the largest). France was defeated in battle—vengeance for the humiliations wrought by Napoleon Bonaparte!—and Austria was maneuvered into docility. King Wilhelm took a new position as emperor of a united, federal German Empire. Augusta Louisa—born a princess in a tiny duchy, then elevated to queen of Prussia—was now Deutsche Kaiserin (German empress).

From Queen To Empress

Still the Weimaraner Feuertopf continued to burn with independence. Much of Germany (and especially its upper class) was puritanically Protestant; Augusta urged tolerance toward Catholics. Against the grain of Prussia's old guard, she championed her son's marriage to Queen Victoria's eldest daughter—a liberal, opinionated, and strong-willed young woman. (Sound familiar?) Augusta held the arch-conservative Bismarck as a serious political enemy. While others wildly cheered her husband's victories on the battlefield, she prayed for the dead and wounded. This was not simply Augusta being contrary: she was passionately

against war, and concerned for her country's men in uniform. She founded Prussia's National Women's Association (for the care of wounded and sick soldiers) and several important hospital and charitable foundations.

Of course, not all of the empress's social work had to do with military charities. Royalty, then as now, were patrons of many causes and organizations.⁵ The medal



Otto von Bismarck. The Iron Chancellor felt women should stick to these interests: Kinder, Küche, Kirche, und Kaiser—children, kitchen, church, and emperor. He didn't care much for the strong-willed and liberal Augusta. (80th-birthday medal,

1895; actual size 34 mm)

shown here portrays Augusta in her role as protector of the four-week International Horticulture Exhibition held in Cologne, Prussia, in the summer of 1875.⁶ The medal's engraver was Friedrich Wilhelm Kullrich, a German artist by then well established in Berlin's numismatic scene, with more than a dozen years under his belt as chief medalist at the Prussian mint.⁷ The medal measures 41 mm and weighs



(Actual size 41 mm)



36.65 grams. On the obverse is a bareheaded profile portrait of the empress with her hair in curls, wearing a jeweled choker. The legend, in German, gives her titles as German empress and queen of Prussia.⁸ The reverse features an oak ring with legends declaring the exhibition to be under the patronage of both the imperial couple and the Kronprinzen (the crown prince and his wife).

Kaiserdämmerung—Twilight of the Emperors

Kaiserin Augusta Louisa in her old age was slowed down by rheumatism and injuries from a fall, which kept her wheelchair-bound. She remained energetic, however, and active in German high society. Lamar Cecil

describes her as “An intelligent if strong-willed and frenetic woman,” noting that “Augusta talked and gesticulated constantly, entertained virtually without cessation, and wore out everyone in her entourage.”

In 1888, Wilhelm passed away, nearly 91 years old. He and



The obverse legend, W. KULLRICH F., stands for “Wilhelm Kullrich Made It.”

Augusta had somewhat made amends the year before. Their son, Friedrich, was himself already dying, of throat cancer; he ruled as German emperor for only 99 days before painfully succumbing. Augusta outlived her son by a year and a half, long enough to

see her beloved grandson take the imperial mantle as

Kaiser Wilhelm II. Mercifully, she left this earth before he lost his throne in a war even more monstrous than the ones she had survived as a child.

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3. As a newly minted duke, Karl August was “a youth of sterling character, amenable to counsel in weighty public affairs, and eager to make his mark as a good ruler” (Goethe, Calvin Thomas, 1917, Henry Holt and Company, page 63).

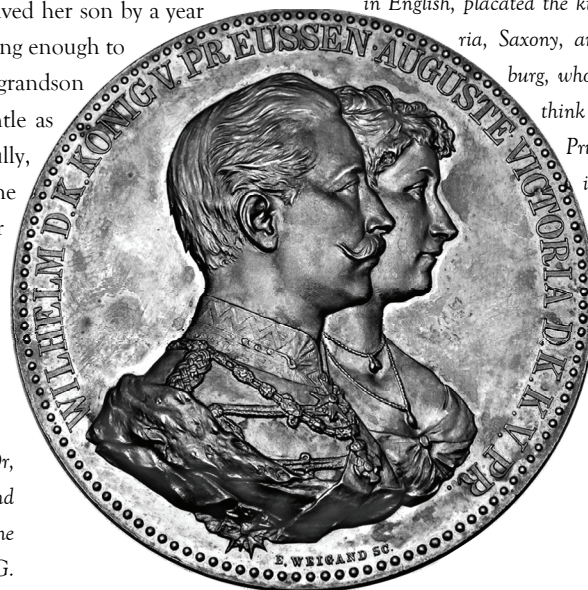
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5. Today, Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II is president or patron of more than 600 charities and organizations, from the British Red Cross Society to the Royal Pigeon Racing Association.

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8. Note that she was styled *Deutsche Kaiserin*—“German empress”—and not *Kaiserin von Deutschland*—“Empress of Germany.” This distinction, subtle in English, placated the kings of Bava-



Augusta’s grandson, Kaiser Wilhelm II, married a woman more acquiescing and conservative than she. (Wedding commemorative medal; actual size 45 mm; photograph by Tom Mulvaney)

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